

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STOCKH 00351 281552Z

44

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IOE-00 AID-20 EB-11 AGR-20

COME-00 SS-20 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OIC-04 STR-08 CIEP-02 TRSE-00

OMB-01 L-03 H-03 SPC-03 DRC-01 /177 W

----- 111087

P R 281528Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1332

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STOCKHOLM 0351

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, EAGR, UN, FAO, SW

SUBJECT: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 7206

OECD FOR AMBASSADOR MARTIN

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON STAFFAN SOHLMAN, MFA DIRECTOR OF MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, JANUARY 23 TO ACQUAINT HIM AND HIS COLLEAGUES WITH PRESENT USG THINKING ABOUT SCOPE AND PURPOSE OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE (WFC). SOHLMAN WARMLY WELCOMED REVIEW OF US IDEAS AND AGENDA SUGGESTIONS AND OUR PROPOSAL TO CONTINUE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS. CONVERSATION MADE CLEAR THAT SOHLMAN FAVORS LOOKING AT FOOD PROBLEM. IN THE WIDER CONTEXT OF DEVELOPMENT", A PHRASE WHICH HE RECALLED HAD BEEN USED BY UN SECRETARIAT TO DESCRIBE WFC.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STOCKH 00351 281552Z

2. SOHLMAN SAID SWEDISH PREPARATIONS FOR PREPCOM

JUST BEGINNING AND APOLOGIZED FOR NECESSARY GENERALITY OF INITIAL SWEDISH RESPONSE. HIS IMPROMPTU COMMENTS, HOWEVER, REVEALED ATTITUDES THAT COULD BE REFLECTED IN FINAL SWEDISH POSITION.

3. SOHLMAN AGREED THAT WFC SHOULD NOT BE NARROW TRADE OR AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE; HE BELIEVED IT SHOULD LOOK MORE WIDELY AT PROBLEMS OF DISTRIBUTION. HE AGREED THAT FOOD IS PROBLEM NOT ONLY OF LDC'S BUT OF DC'S, TOO. HE ANTICIPATED THAT LDC'S WOULD MAKE STRENUOUS EFFORT TO SHAPE CONFERENCE TO THEIR OUTLOOK AND TO URGE RESPONSES TO THEIR PROBLEMS. FORLIS PAROKJ SOHLMAN TENDED TO REGARD SOCIAL ASPECTS OF AGRICULTURE, OR WHAT HE CALLED "INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT", TO BE APPROPRIATE MAIN CONCERN OF CONFERENCE. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL FOR CONFERENCE TO CONCENTRATE ON RAISING FOOD PRODUCTION WITHOUT CONSIDERING SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF ITS RECOMMENDATIONS. HE CITED TWO ILLUSTRATIONS OF HIS POINT. FIRST, HE CLAIMED, "GREEN REVOLUTION" HAS INADEQUATELY BENEFITED SMALL POOR FARMERS, EVEN CAUSING A DROP IN AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT THROUGH HASTENING MECHANIZATION OF LARGE LANDHOLDINGS WHERE IT IS FREQUENTLY PRACTICED. SECOND, HE NOTED INCREASED USE OF GRAINS, SOYBEANS AND LEGUMES AS ANIMAL FEED AND THOUGHT THAT WFC EFFORTS TO RAISE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, IRONICALLY, MIGHT BENEFIT LIVESTOCK MORE THAN NEEDY PEOPLE, UNLESS SPECIAL CARE WERE TAKEN.

4. OTHER VIEWS EXPRESSED BY SOHLMAN ARE LISTED BELOW:

A. PREPCOM SHOULD UNDERTAKE TO ASSESS SUPPLY SITUATION IN ORDER THAT WFC MAY OPEN WITH OVERALL AGREEMENT ON BASIC NATURE OF FOOD PROBLEM. IN ABSENCE OF SUCH A COMMON PERCEPTION, OUTCOME OF CONFERENCE COULD BE JEOPARDIZED.

B. PROPOSAL TO FILL IN CONFERENCE AGENDA GRADUALLY AS THINKING DEVELOPS IN AND OUT OF PREPCOM MEETINGS MAKES SENSE.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STOCKH 00351 281552Z

C. SWEDEN WOULD EXPECT CONFERENCE TO PRODUCE PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES RATHER THAN FIRM AGREEMENTS. IT IS UNREALISTIC TO EXPECT COMMITMENTS UNLESS PERHAPS IN SUPPORT OF WORLD FOOD PROGRAM.

D. IDEA OF NEGOTIATING AT PREPCOM MEETINGS RESOLUTIONS WHICH COULD THEN BE EXPECTED TO COME OUT OF CONFERENCE IS CONSTRUCTIVE.

E. DISCUSSIONS IN WFC SHOULD NOT PREJUDICE GATT

OR UNCTAD DELIBERATIONS.

F. SWEDEN DOES NOT YET HAVE ANY FIRM VIEWS ON
SPECIFIC FOOD PRODUCTS WHICH CONFERENCE SHOULD CONSIDER.

5. SWEDISH DELEGATION TO CONFERENCE HAS NOT YET BEEN
DETERMINED. SEVERAL PARTS OF GOS ARE INVOLVED,
INCLUDING MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, AID AND DEVELOPMENT
PEOPLE LIKE SOHLMAN IN MFA, AND TRADE PEOPLE IN
BUREAU FOR COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, WHICH IS
JOINT OPERATION OF MFA AND MINISTRY OF COMMERCE.

6. SOHLMAN PROMISED TO INFORM EMBASSY OF COMPOSI-
TION OF SWEDISH DELEGATION AS SOON AS IT WAS KNOWN
AND TO ACQUAINT US WITH GOS VIEWS AS THESE DEVELOPED.

7. COMMENT: CONSIDERED APPROACH OF SOCIALIST
GOVERNMENT OF SWEDEN TO WFC WILL PROBABLY EMPHASIZE
DEVELOPMENT, AS SOHLMAN HAS SUGGESTED. DEPARTMENT
MAY WISH TO REQUEST EMBASSY TO MAKE FURTHER DEMARCH
ON THIS POINT WHEN US IS PREPARED MAKE MORE DETAILED
SUGGESTIONS REGARDING CONFERENCE THEME.
OLSEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING CHAIRMAN, MEETING AGENDA, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STOCKH00351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740111/aaaaajos.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 7206
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <30 MAY 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE
TAGS: AORG, EAGR, SW, WFC, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005